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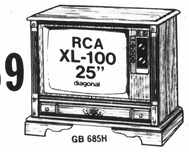
$559 — 

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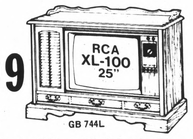
$599 — 

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AUG 10 1978

1 SECTION - 16 PAGES

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Father Darkleaf

BY CALVIN ROBINSON

Greetings from Martha St. Summer has slipped by at record speed and in a few short weeks school buses will be running, the college crowd will be leaving, football will be commanding the sports scene, and summer wearing apparel will be closeted. For a change of pace, I have been whacking away at postponed home chores and doing an abnormal amount of reading. Ah yes, yesterday I was fascinated by a humming bird who was checking out my bird feeder. Would call the bird feeder The Martha Street Hilton, only do not have overnight accomodations.

• • •

In a local store saw a large sack of Irish potatoes labeled from Parksley, Va. Now, that's a fine town over on the Eastern Shore, which I remember so well. Lots of families there named Parks, so maybe that is how it got its name. I recall the N. J. Parks Dept. Store and the town is in the midst of a great food producing seciton. Some 26,600 acres on The Shore are planted to Irish potatoes, and that is a lot of Spuds. Harvest season is on now and they are having the usual problem of labor shortage.

• • •

A friend knows I like corn on the cob and brought in a generous supply. Thanks. Most gardens have been good this year and the community cannery and home-canners have been active. Virginia Is For Lovers and also for those who like to eat good food.

• • •

Personal . . . after using the same shaving brush for most of my adult life, it finally fell apart over the week end, like Oliver Wendell Holmes' One-Horse Shay. It did not wear out gradually but collapsed all at once.

• • •

Many of us have complained about gnats this summer. We should consider ourselves lucky, because worldwide it has been a buggy year and I do not refer to horse and buggy days. Locusts and their smaller cousins, grasshoppers are on a rampage with ferocity equal to the plagues of Bible times. A lengthy article by Thomas O'Toole in The Washington Post told the story. He says at least sixty-seven swarms of locusts with some four BILLION to a swarm have been spotted Ethiopia and Somalia.

• • •

In our own country, Colorado farmers have counted up to 150 grasshoppers per square yard in their alfalfa fields. The gypsy moth in the Northeast, the Fire ant in the Southeast and the corn borer in the Midwest have caused untold damage. And some nations are facing problems with malaria fever due to a new wave of mosquitos. No one knows for sure, but a conservative estimate is that worldwise there may be up to 200 millon cases of malaria.

Our difficulty is that the insects seem to have developed resistance to insecticides. One swarm of locusts was detected to have flown across the Indian Ocean and wrought havoc in India and Pakistan. Locusts and grasshoppers will eat most anything. One farmer declared they ate a pitchfork handle. And a fence post. Nature's law of the survival of the fitest holds that after a hard winter the survivors come back stronger than ever. Two comments. First, there are worse critters than gnats. Second, stay healthy and cooperate to keep the human family alive.

• • •

Thanks for reading and seeya next week.

Appomattox F.F.A. Members Attend State Leadership Camp

For the week of July 31-August 5 the Virginia State Leadership Camp was held in Smithfield, Virginia on the F.F.A. camp ground. Two members of the Appomattox Senior Chapter attended. They were David Stratton and Richard Jones. (pictured above)

The purpose of the camp was to teach up-coming chapter officers leadership. One hundred fifty F.F.A. members from around the state attended.

The highlights of the week were a trip to Busch Gardens on Wednesday and the Tri-State Public Speaking Contest Thursday night.

Appomattox Jr. FFA Chapter Attends State Leadership Camp

The State Leadership Camp was held in Smithfield, Virginia during the week of July 31-August 5. Two members of the Junior Chapter attended. They were Susan Eye (left) and Cindy Covington (right).

The camp is held each year for the purpose of enchancing the new Chapter F.F.A. Officers leadership capabilities. There were approximately 150 F.F.A. members from around the state at camp.

The week was filled with many highlights among them were: A visit by Dee Sokolosky, National Vice-President, the Tri-State Public Speaking Contest, and a trip to Busch Gardens.

Commission On Aging Begins Project "G" Day

In an effort to continuously educate our senior population about existing services as well as future programs that the Central Virginia Commission on Aging provides, a new project will be implemented.

This new project will be referred to as "G" Day. The "G" applies to any gripes or grievances that our 60+ population are having with existing senior services in our Planning District.

A panel of staff members from the Central Virginia Commission on Aging Office will be available August 15, 1978 at the Appomattox Dining Center on Church Street in Appomattox at 11 a.m. to discuss the various senior programs offered in our service area.

Members of the panel will include representatives from the Nutrition Program, Transportation, Senior Discount Program, Counseling, Senior Employment, Winterization, and Emergency Residential Repair.

Each panelist will be given no more than 5 minutes to highlight his/her program, then questions will be addressed at the conclusion of the panel discussion. The panel will divide into small groups when needed to answer questions.

Country Music Show Planned at Pamplin

There will be a Country Music Show at Pamplin Community Center Friday, August 18, 1978 at 7:30 p.m.

Some of the bands that are scheduled to play are: Skylinders of Lynchburg; Expressions of Concord; Traveling Company of Evergreen; Briery Creek Band from Farmville; Phillip Kitchen's Band from Dillwyn. Seven to ten bands will be competing for first, second, and third place trophies.

Admission will be adults $2.00, school children $1.00 and pre-school children - FREE.

This show will be sponsored by the Pamplin Ruritan Club. Proceeds will go towards sponsoring the Pamplin Little League Baseball Team and several other local projects.

There will also be a drawing for a $100.00 bill.

Come out and enjoy a great show and support the Pamplin Ruritans.

Blood Urgently Needed

Bloodmobile Visit Set For August 29

During the summer months it is difficult to maintain the supply of blood to patients who need it. This is true not only in southwestern Virginia, but throughout the United States. The reason is simple, according to Dr. M. Marci Cannon, MC., Medical Director of the Appalachian Red Cross Blood Services. "People go on vacation, and businesses are short-handed. As a result, few have time to donate blood. Companies need to maintain production, even when people are on vacation. The cannot afford for employees to take the hour or so needed to donate blood. It's an understandable situation, but it is also unfortunate for those who need blood."

Dr. Cannon said that the demand for blood does not lessen during the summer. "People still have accidents. Indeed, it would seem that the accident rate increases. People have surgery and must have blood. Diseases for which blood transfusions are needed never take vacations. On any given day, about 190 people in southwestern Virginia are receiving blood transfusions in 47 hospitals. The Appalachian Red Cross Blood Services (of which Appomattox County is a part) must draw about that same amount of blood from volunteer donors each day to meet patients' needs for blood."

Dr. Cannon named several solutions to the difficulty of recruiting blood donors during the summer. "Donors going on vacation should make plans to give blood before they go. People who have never given blood before are invited to come and find out that donating is a pleasant, satisfying experience. We suggest and hope that working people who cannot get away themselves to donate will recruit a spouse, neighbor, or friend to give blood. Ultimately, the Red Cross and patients depend on the generosity of the public, and people are refreshingly dependable in this regard."

THERE WILL BE A VISIT FROM THE RED CROSS BLOODMOBILE AT LIBERTY BAPTIST CHURCH ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 29, 1978, FROM 12 NOON UNTIL 6 P. M. Appointments to donate can be made by phoning Mrs. Alice C. Martin, Chairman of Appomattox County Blood Services. With an appointment, a donor can come and go within an hour. However, if you cannot make an appointment, come out whenever it is convenient and you will be processed as soon as possible.

Dr. Cannon is optomistic about maintaining the supply of blood throughout the summer. "Red Cross volunteers in the various communities throughout southwestern Virginia are working hard to recruit blood donors. When people realize that the sick depend on them for life-saving blood, they make every effort to donate. It is fortunate that people are generous with their blood, for it does save lives."

County Farm Bureau Plans Annual Picnic

The Appomattox County Farm Bureau will have its Annual Summer Picnic at 7 p.m. on August 12th at the Fred Jones Lake.

All members and their families are urged to attend.

The Farm Bureau will furnish drinks and meat.

Members are asked to bring a salad, vegetable or dessert.

Local Rescue Squad Responds To 63 Calls In July

Volunteer members of the Appomattox County Rescue Squad responded to a total of 63 emergency calls during the month of July.

In answering these calls, members travelled a total of 2769 miles and spent 311 ¾ manhours.

Eleven persons were monitored on the EKG equipment en route to the hospital and eight persons were treated at the scene of 6 automobile accidents.

A breakdown of the calls is as follows: burns, 1; transports by doctor request, 9; chest pains, 3; over dose, 2; seizure, 1; head injury, 2; strokes, 2; falls, 2; illness, 7; bike accident, 1; cuts, 2; convulsion, 1; heart attack, 5; breathing difficulty, 7; wrecks, 6; maternity, 1; false call, 1; dead on arrival, 1; bee sting, 1; hit by truck, 1; shock, 2; hemmorage, 1; and broken bones, 2.

Post 104 To Honor Team At Dinner

The American Legion Post 104 is planning a dinner for players on Post 104 team on Saturday night, August 12th, at 6:00 p.m. at the American Legion Post Home.

Parents and Legion members are invited. Dinner tickets are available from Ronnie Spiggle at a cost of $2.50 each.

Post 104 is very proud of its team this season. They were runner-up in the 10th District American Legion play and placed third in the Connie Mack State Competition.

Post 104 expresses appreciation to Fidelity American Bank, Farmers National Bank, American Federal Savings and Loan Association, Webb's Tire Company, Moses Motor Company, Gaines Jewelers, J. E. Sears Company and the Times-Virginian for their help and support.

Lions Club To Meet Tonight

The Appomattox Lions Club will meet tonight, Thursday, at 6:45 p.m. at Maudes Restaurant.

Guest speaker for the evening will be Thomas Gerhardt, Fidelity American Bank, Trust Department, Lynchburg. He will speak on estate planning.

All members will want to be present for this interesting and informative meeting.

DRUG EDUCATION SUB-COMMITTEE TO MEET AUGUST 14

Recently a group of Appomattox residents met with some members of the Appomattox Drug Education Committee, local law enforcement, court, and school officials to discuss drug abuse in Appomattox County. Local officials explained the nature and extent of the drug problem and answered questions concerning law enforcement, court procedures and school policies in which illicit drugs are involved.

From those members present at the meeting, a sub-committee was formed to prepare plans for combating the drug problem and educating the public about illegal drugs and drug abuse. The sub-committee will meet Monday, August 14, 1978, at 7:30 p.m. at the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court. The plans will be publicized in the Times-Virginian.

MARIJUANA UPDATE

Don't Be Fooled By The Myth Of Mildness; New Research Shows Prolonged Use Can Cause Serious Physical And Mental Harm

(The following is a reprint of a true story taken from the May 1978 edition of PARENTS magazine. We feel it will be of interest to our readers.)

By: Samuel J. Gulino

The following anecdote is true; it concerns a young woman I know.

Cheryl was a good teacher, still young - in her mid-twenties - energetic and in possession of the patience necessary for her specialty - teaching brain-injured children. She was popular with her colleagues and she had a wide circle of friends in other walks of life.

Although single, she was open to the possibility of marriage and men were attracted to her. But she was in no hurry to take the plunge; she valued her independence.

Cheryl's social life was quite active - frequent dates, parties, weekend and vacation excursions. But, she was a dedicated professional, too, taking care to guard her health and maintain the energy level necessary for her demanding job.

Several of her friends smoked marijuana, and although Cheryl perceived very few negative effects in their behavior, she felt no desire to join them. For her, artificial stimulation of any kind was unneeded. She was intensely interested in her work - thrilled by the hard-won successes of her students; she had written several well-received articles on the teaching of handicapped children; she was active in the fight for hiring more women in educational administrative positions, and she was working toward her doctrate degree in education.

That year, however, the intensity of her work took its toll. Teaching became particularly wearing, her class even more difficult than usual to handle. Some brain-injured children are comparatively docile and - although difficult to teach - never disruptive. Others, however, are easily distracted, hyperactive and sometimes prone to violence. Cheryl's class included three boys in the latter category - one of whom used obscenities in virtually every sentence, another who started fistfights regularly and a third who made a practice of running out of the school and darting for home.

By midterm, Cheryl's nerves were worn thin. At times, she was shocked to hear herself screaming at the children and on one occasion she broke down in tears in front of her students.

Finally, at the urging of her closest friend and teaching colleague, who said she should "try some grass" to relax her, Cheryl smoked her first joint. She was pleasantly surprised by the sensation of euphoria that smoothed out her tensions and worries; her muscles relaxed and her body felt loose and supple all over. She felt in control of her faculties and was sure she was able to converse normally with her friend. Together, they smoked two or three joints. Later, for the first time in weeks, Cheryl enjoyed a full night of uninterrupted sleep.

Before long Cheryl was addicted - maybe not physically - but she was hooked, nevertheless. Pot-smoking became her crutch and although she was sometimes disturbed by her dependence on it and tried a few times to quit - she continued for two years, unaware of the subtle changes taking place in her personality.

The courses she was taking at the university became more trying; she blamed her instructors. At work, she was bypassed for two promotions, both of which went to men; she attributed that to sex discrimination. She found it more and more difficult to get through the school day but, after all, she told herself, her class was larger than usual and today's kids are troublesome to even the best teachers. She seldom went out on dates but, she reasoned, the men she knew were boring and thought about nothing but sex.

Finally, however, it became

Continued To Page 13

Tractor Pulling Contest Held Here Saturday

Over 1300 spectators saw 63 tractors from throughout Virginia compete at the Appomattox Young Farmers Tractor Pulling Contest held at Nash's Field near Appomattox.

$1,000 in cash prizes and trophies was won Saturday in stiff competition.

The 4-Wheel Drive Pulling Contest was rained out Sunday and rescheduled for Saturday, August 19th, at 6:00 p.m.

Winners of the Tractor Pulling Contest were as follows: 6,000# Factory Farm Stock Tractors, 1st place, T. A. Hanes; 2nd place, David Poore, Jr.; 3rd place, Russell Humphrey - 7,000# Factory Farm Stock, 1st place, G. H. Peery, III; 2nd place, George Evans; 3rd place, G. H. Peery, III; - 11,000# Factory Farm Stock, 1st place, Gene Munford; 2nd place, George Evans; 3rd place, G. H. Peery, III; 2nd place, Danny Hix; 3rd place to Nathan Smith - 13,000# Factory Farm Stock, 1st place, Baxter Parris; 2nd place, Danny Hix; and 3rd place, Jimmy Braford - 9,000# Stock, 1st place, Stanley King, Jr.; 2nd place, G. H. Peery, III; and 3rd place, Russell Padgett - 12,000# Stock, 1st place, Fred Butler; 2nd place, Thurman Munford; 3rd place, W. L. Ellis - 15,000# Stock, 1st place, Fred Butler; 2nd place, Donnie Poore; 3rd place, Kenneth Carroll; and 7,000# Stock, 1st place, Stanley King; 2nd place Eddie Poore; and 3rd place, Curtis Byrum.

Farm Family Life Poster Contest

The Women's Committee of the Appomattox County Farm Bureau is sponsoring a Farm Family Life Poster Contest for children ten years of age or younger whose families are Farm Bureau members. The child may have been 10 years old any time during the year of entry.

Posters should depict some aspect of farm family living and should be on standard size poster paper. Posters may be brought to the Farm Bureau Picnic Saturday, August 12, 1978, or turned in to the Farm Bureau Office by Friday, August 11.

The poster winning the county contest will be sent to the state office for district judging. One prize will be awarded in each of the seven state districts.

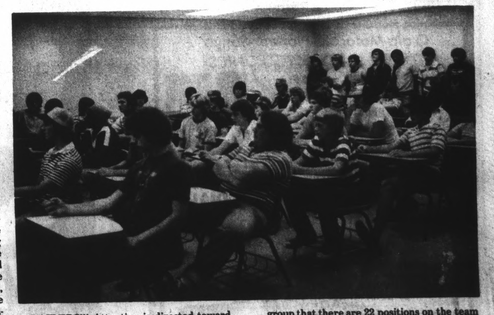
Investigation Continues In Murder of Appomattox Man

The Regional Investigation Squad, which was activated at 11:00 A.M., August 4, 1978, is continuing its probe into the murder of Alfred Harwood Coleman, a white male, 54 years of age, of Route 4, Appomattox, Virginia, whose body was found at his residence just prior to 7:00 A.M. on Friday, August 4, 1978, after he failed to appear at work.

It is believed that Coleman, who lived alone, died at approximately 9:45 P.M., Thursday night. According to Roanoke Medical Examiner, Dr. David W. Oxley, death occurred as a result of a gunshot wound to the head. Apparently the motive in the slaying is robbery.

The Regional Squad is currently working around the clock investigating leads and following up information to identify the offender.

It is requested that anyone with information that may be related to this case contact the Regional Investigation Squad or Appomattox County Sheriff's Office at 993-3323 or 352-8241.



RAIDERS!!! Attention is directed toward Coach Stuart Justus as he outlines plans for 1977 Football Season. Coach Justus told the group that there are 22 positions on the team and all 22 are open. Season opens September 1st.